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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/930,095	08/15/2001	Indermohan S. Monga	120-177	1009
34845	7590	01/09/2009	EXAMINER	
Anderson Gorecki & Manaras LLP			SINGH, DALZID E	
33 NAGOG PARK			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
ACTON, MA 01720			2613	
			NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			01/09/2009	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/930,095	Applicant(s) MONGA, INDERMOHAN S.	
	Examiner Dalzid Singh	Art Unit 2613	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 October 2008.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Transitional After Final Practice

1. In view of the appeal brief filed on 07 October 2008, PROSECUTION IS HEREBY REOPENED. A new ground of rejection is set forth below.

To avoid abandonment of the application, appellant must exercise one of the following two options:

(1) file a reply under 37 CFR 1.111 (if this Office action is non-final) or a reply under 37 CFR 1.113 (if this Office action is final); or,

(2) initiate a new appeal by filing a notice of appeal under 37 CFR 41.31 followed by an appeal brief under 37 CFR 41.37. The previously paid notice of appeal fee and appeal brief fee can be applied to the new appeal. If, however, the appeal fees set forth in 37 CFR 41.20 have been increased since they were previously paid, then appellant must pay the difference between the increased fees and the amount previously paid.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

2. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

3. Claim(s) 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as not falling within one of the four statutory categories of invention. While the claims recite a series of steps or acts to be performed, a statutory "process" under 35 U.S.C. 101 must (1) be tied to another statutory category (such as a particular apparatus), or (2) transform underlying subject matter (such as an article or material) to a different state or thing (see the May 15, 2008 memorandum issued by Deputy Commissioner for Patent Examining Policy, John J. Love, titled "Clarification of 'Processes' under 35 U.S.C. 101"). The instant claims neither transform underlying subject matter nor positively tie to another statutory category that accomplishes the claimed method steps, and therefore do not qualify as a statutory process.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Bagga et al (US Patent No. 7,197,546).

Regarding claims 1, 6 and 12, Bagga et al discloses a method for provisioning network services for a user application in an optical communication system, as shown in Fig. 6, the method comprising:

ascertaining communication requirements of the user application (600);

determining a set of application-specific optical network communication services for the user application based at least in-part upon the ascertained communication requirements and non-requirements of the user application, the communications services including at least one of unshared lightpath, shared lightpath, routed path, latency, error rate, and protection mechanism (602; for example, route requirement is the selected route path; the system is capable of providing various services therefore a selected service will be considered as required and the un-selected service is considered

as non-requirements; application-specific is considered as the selected service that is able to perform the required user application); and

obtaining, from the optical network, the ascertained communication services for the user application (604-608).

Regarding claims 2, 7, 14 and 23, wherein determining a set of communication services for the user application based at least in-part upon the ascertained communication requirements and non-requirements of the user application comprises mapping the user application communication requirements and non-requirements to the optical network communication services (see Fig. 6; the provision is completed, therefore the user application is mapped to desired result).

Regarding claims 3, 8, 15 and 24, wherein obtaining the communication services for the user application comprises interacting with a core optical communication network to obtain the communication services for the user application (see col. 3, lines 25-32).

Regarding claim 4, Bagga et al disclose the core optical communication network comprises an automatically switched optical network (ASON) (in col. 3, lines 25-32, Bagga et al teach the use of optical switch, therefore it is inherent that such switch in automatically controlled to direct connection between ports).

Regarding claims 5, 11, 18, 19 and 25-27, wherein determining the communication services for the user application comprises interacting with at least one peer user application to determine the set of communication services for the user

application (as shown in Fig. 5, Bagga et al show various connections which is capable of interacting with peer to peer).

Regarding claims 9, 10, 16, 17 and 21, wherein the optical communication network comprises an automatically switched optical/transport network (ASON), and wherein the UNI comprises an ASON UNI (in col. 3, lines 25-32, Bagga et al teach the use of optical switch, therefore it is inherent that such switch is automatically controlled to direct connection between ports; it is inherent that the system comprise of UNI or user-to-network interface).

Regarding claims 13 and 22, Bagga et al disclose logic for ascertaining communication requirements and non-requirements of the user application; for determining a set of communication services for the user based at least in-part upon the communication requirements and non-requirements of the user application; and for obtaining the communication services for the user application (see Fig. 6; in step 602, for example, route requirement is the selected route path; the system is capable of providing various services therefore a selected service will be considered as required and the un-selected service is considered as non-requirements; application-specific is considered as the selected service that is able to perform the required user application).

Regarding claim 20, Bagga et al disclose system, as shown in Fig. 1, comprising: an optical communication network (Fig. 1); and

a network user application coupled to the optical communication network, wherein the network user application comprises an optical service agent for obtaining application-specific optical communication services from the optical communication network via a user-to-network interface (UNI) sufficient to support operation of the network user application, the communications services including at least one of unshared lightpath, shared lightpath, routed path, latency, error rate, and protection mechanism (see Fig. 6; in step 602, for example, route requirement is the selected route path; the system is capable of providing various services therefore a selected service will be considered as required and the un-selected service is considered as non-requirements; application-specific is considered as the selected service that is able to perform the required user application; it is inherent that the system comprise of UNI or user-to-network interface).

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Sunderasan et al (US Patent No. 7,281,046) is cited to show application program interface for automating high speed network access ordering and provisioning processes.

Borchering (US Pub. No. 2001/0036191) is cited to show method and apparatus for a data first optical network.

Bjoerkman et al (US Pub. No. 2001/0036191) is cited to show relating to data networks.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dalzid Singh whose telephone number is (571) 272-3029. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 9am - 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jason Chan can be reached on (571) 272-3022. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you

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have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Dalzid Singh/
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2613